

82D CONGRESS
1st Session

} HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES {

REPORT
No. 782

AMENDING THE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

AUGUST 1, 1951.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. SPENCE, from the Committee on Banking and Currency, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 3176]

The Committee on Banking and Currency, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3176) to amend the act entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington," approved August 7, 1946, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

This bill would amend the act of August 7, 1946 (Public Law 610, 79th Cong.), which authorized the coinage of 5,000,000 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington.

As of March 31, 1951, the coinage of 2,716,000 had been requested under Public Law 610, leaving a balance of 2,284,000 coins which the mint had not been requested to strike. Of the coins which have been struck on such date, 1,138,519 have been issued and 887,481 coins were being held by the mint.

The amendment proposed by the bill would authorize the number of pieces not coined, plus those pieces coined and held by or returned to the Treasury, if any, to be coined in order to commemorate the lives and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver. The amendment does not increase the number of coins authorized by the 1946 act. These coins would be issued only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation. The amendment would also prohibit the issuance

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of any such coins after August 7, 1954. Under existing law, the authority to issue Booker T. Washington commemorative coins expires August 7, 1951. The proceeds from the disposition of such coins are to be used in the manner decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation to oppose the spread of communism among Negroes in the interest of the national defense.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes made by the bill are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in brackets; new matter is printed in *italic*):

[PUBLIC LAW 610—79TH CONGRESS]

AN ACT To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, [That to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington, a great American, there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint not to exceed five million silver 50-cent pieces of standard size, weight, and fineness and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for this coinage.

SEC. 2. The coins herein authorized shall be issued at par, and only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial established at his birthplace in Franklin County, Virginia.

SEC. 3. Such coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks or trust companies selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Franklin County, Virginia, and all proceeds therefrom shall be used to purchase, construct, and maintain suitable memorials to the memory of Booker T. Washington, deceased, as may be decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Virginia.

SEC. 4. That all laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same; regulating and guarding the process of coinage; providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of the coins; for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting; for security of the coin; or for any other purposes, whether said laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein directed.

SEC. 5. The coins authorized herein shall be issued in such numbers, and at such times as shall be requested by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and upon payment to the United States of the face value of such coins: *Provided*, That none of such coins shall be issued after the expiration of the five-year period immediately following the enactment of this Act. *That in order to commemorate the lives and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver, two great Americans, there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint (1) a number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces authorized by the Act of August 7, 1946 (60 Stat. 863), but not yet coined on the date of the enactment of this Act, plus (2) an additional number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces coined under such Act of August 7, 1946, and returned to the Treasury in accordance with section 5 of this Act. The silver 50-cent pieces authorized by this section shall be of standard size, weight, and fineness, and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for the coinage authorized by this section, or to the expense of making any changes in design which may be necessitated by reason of the enactment of this Act.*

SEC. 2. The coins authorized by the first section of this Act shall be issued at par, and only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial (established at the birthplace of Booker T. Washington in Franklin County, Virginia) and

the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation (established at the birthplace of George Washington Carver in Diamond, Missouri).

SEC. 3. The coins authorized by the first section of this Act shall be issued in such numbers, and at such times, as shall be requested by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, and upon payment to the United States of the face value of such coins, except that none of such coins shall be issued after August 7, 1954.

SEC. 4. The coins authorized by the first section of this Act may be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks or trust companies selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, and all proceeds therefrom shall be used, in the manner decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation to oppose the spread of communism among Negroes in the interest of the national defense.

SEC. 5. (a) From and after the date of the enactment of this Act, no 50-cent pieces shall be coined under the Act of August 7, 1946.

(b) At the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, any of the 50-cent pieces coined under the Act of August 7, 1946, but on the date of the enactment of this Act not yet disposed of in accordance with such Act, shall be returned or to retained in the Treasury, and the Director of the Mint shall melt down such 50-cent pieces and use the resulting metal and material for the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces under the first section of this Act.

SEC. 6. All laws in force on the date of the enactment of this Act, whether penal or otherwise, relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking thereof, regulating and guarding the process of coinage, providing for the purchase of material and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of coins, providing for the prevention of debasement and counterfeiting and for the security of the coin, or otherwise relating to coinage, shall, insofar as they are applicable, apply to the coinage authorized by this Act.

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